

## Proclamation

It was an Aloha Friday on July 26, 1946, less than a year from the end of World War II, when Aloha Airlines began its operations as a charter carrier called Trans-Pacific Airlines. With the vision of providing the people of Hawai'i with travel options, Trans-Pacific Airline battled for three years with the federal government to obtain the certificate that would allow them to begin scheduled flights and become a commercial airline. In 2006, Aloha Airlines celebrates 60 years of service.

The founder of TPA, Ruddy Tongg, worked hard to create an airline where all of the customers, employees, and investors experienced the true spirit of aloha. Hawaiian residents were invited to work in all departments of TPA, an opportunity that was not common during these times. TPA became commonly known as The People's Airline and the Aloha Airline.

Flying on TPA-Aloha provided a unique island-style experience within the first few years, with hula dancing and `ukulele playing flight attendants serving pineapple juice to the travelers. TPA added Big Island flights around the crater when Kilauea erupted, giving passengers the chance to photograph the volcano from the plane's panoramic windows.

Under the new visionary leadership of Dr. Hung Wo Ching in 1958, Trans-Pacific Airline officially changed its name to Aloha Airlines. The introduction of the Boeing 737 passenger jet in the mid-1960s allowed Aloha Airlines to provide the highest level of service to Hawai'i's more remote communities.

Aloha Airlines continued to grow and thrive throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s, pioneering many customer-service innovations in inter-island air transportation, including their frequent flyer program, AlohaPass. In the year 2000, the Aloha Airlines' skies opened to include the Mainland, bringing the aloha experience to California and Nevada.

The sacrifice of its dedicated 'ohana, the loyalty of its customers, and the leadership of its President and Chief Executive Officer, David A. Banmiller, and his management staff allowed Aloha Airlines to emerge from bankruptcy in February, 2006.

In 2005, the airline serviced nearly 4 million customers on over 40,000 flights throughout Hawai'i and the mainland. As it celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the company is looking to a bright future of bringing comfort, convenience, value, and the friendly aloha spirit to our visitors and residents.

**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE,** Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2006, as

## **ALOHA AIRLINES DAY**

in Hawai'i, and thank Aloha Airlines for spreading the aloha spirit during sixty years of service to the people of our islands.

**Done** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this second day of June 2006.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai i

James R/ "Duke" Aio/ha, Jr.

Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i